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DOS Review Completed.

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Israel

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, IS, US
SUBJECT: RABIN ON MATTI GOLAN BOOK

REF: STATE 99517

1. FOLLOWING ARE RELEVANT EXCERPTS FROM DOV GOLDSTEIN INTERVIEW WITH PRIME MINISTER RABIN IN APRIL 14 MAARIV REGARDING MATTI GOLAN BOOK. (ALSO CARRIED IN FBIS DAILY REPORT APRIL 15 VOL.V, NUMBER 74, PAGE N2.)

2. BEGIN TEXT: Q. YOU KEEP ASSERTING THAT THERE IS NO CONFRONTATION IN U.S.-ISRAELI RELATIONS. IN THE CABINET YOU CLAIMED, OR SO IT WAS REPORTED AND NOT DENIED, THAT THERE WAS A GROUP INTERESTED IN DISRUPTING AND DAMAGING THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL. IF YOU WERE REFERRING TO ASAD, SADAT, BREZHNEV AND ARAFAT, PROOF IS UNNECESSARY. HOWEVER, IF, GOD FORBID, YOU WERE REFERRING TO PEOPLE IN ISRAEL, COULD YOU PLEASE IDENTIFY THEM SO THAT WE KNOW WHO ARE THESE ISRAELIS CAUSING SUCH SERIOUS MISCHIEF?

3. A. I HAVE MORE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT FOR SOME TIME NOW A NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN ISRAEL AND PERHAPS EVEN OUTSIDE IT HAVE BEEN TRYING TO TAINT U.S.-ISRAELI RELATIONS SO AS TO DAMAGE THE GOVERNMENT'S CREDIBILITY. THEY ARE ESPECIALLY DETERMINED TO HARM CERTAIN PEOPLE IN THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT

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AND THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION. THE FIRST EXPRESSION OF THIS TREND WAS THE GIVING OF CLASSIFIED MATERIAL TO AN ISRAELI JOURNALIST WHO PUBLISHED A BOOK ON THE BASIS OF THAT INFORMATION WITH THE ONLY TOO OBVIOUS MOTIVATION OF UNDERMINING RELATIONS AND HARMING CERTAIN KEY INDIVIDUALS, BOTH IN THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT AND IN THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION. LET ME POINT OUT THAT THE MATERIAL HANDED OVER TO THAT NEWSMAN FOR THE PUBLICATION OF A BOOK WAS INCOMPLETE AND TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT AND SOME SECTIONS ACTUALLY ARE DELIBERATELY INACCURATE IN ORDER TO SERVE THE DAMAGING OBJECTIVES I HAVE MENTIONED. EVERY READER SEEKING TO OBTAIN A TRUE PICTURE OF U.S.-ISRAELI RELATIONS ON THE BASIS OF THE EVENTS RECOUNTED IN THAT BOOK OBTAINS A DISTORTED PICTURE. EVER SINCE THE HANDING OF THE MATERIAL TO THE NEWSMAN THESE PEOPLE HAVE CLEARLY ENGAGED IN THIS OBJECTIVE. THEY ARE PRESENTING A DISTORTED PICTURE OF THE FACTS CONCERNING THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND ARE INDULGING IN DISTORTED INTERPRETATIONS, ALL IN ORDER TO FOUL THE ATMOSPHERE AND TO DISRUPT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL.

A. Q. YOU STILL HAVE NOW SAID WHO THE PEOPLE ARE.

A. YOU DO NOT EXPECT ME TO SPECIFY...

Q. THE MATERIAL GIVEN TO THE NEWSMAN, DID IT REACH THIS GROUP? WERE THEY, THEMSELVES, AUTHORIZED TO SEE THE CLASSIFIED INFORMATION?

A. THE MATERIAL GIVEN TO THE NEWSMAN WAS IN THE HANDS OF A LIMITED NUMBER OF PERSONS.

Q. ISRAELIS?

A. YES, ISRAELIS.

Q. PEOPLE IN OFFICE?

ISRAELI PERSONALITIES.

WHY DON'T YOU ASK THE LEGAL ADVISOR TO PUT THEM ON TRIAL?

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A. I CANNOT CLAIM TO HAVE LEGAL EVIDENCE TO HAVE THEM TRIED.

Q. TO THE BEST OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE, ARE THEY STILL AT IT?

A. RELENTLESSLY. END TEXT

5. ALTHOUGH RABIN DID NOT MENTION GOLAN BY NAME IN ABOVE INTERVIEW, GOLAN IN HAARETZ APRIL 26 MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS IN AN ARTICLE ENTITLED "RABIN HAUNTED BY CRITICISM." BEGIN TEXT: WHEN RABIN FIRST SPOKE OF PEOPLE WHO WANTED TO SABOTAGE U.S.-ISRAEL RELATIONS, IT SEEMED A CASE OF THINKING ALOUD OR PERHAPS EVEN A SLIP OF THE TONGUE; WHEN HE SAYS IT OVER AND OVER AGAIN ON ALL KIND OF OFFICIAL AND LESS OFFICIAL OCCASIONS, ONE GETS WORRIED ABOUT HIS THINKING. HE SEEMS TO BE FIRING ACCUSATIONS AT RANDOM WITHOUT PRODUCING EVEN A SHADE OF EVIDENCE. ASKED IN HIS INTERVIEW IN MAARIV OF APRIL 14 WHO THESE PEOPLE ARE, HE REPLIES: "SURELY YOU DO NOT EXPECT ME TO MENTION NAMES?" THE INTERVIEWER, WHO IS ALSO MR. RABIN'S OFFICIAL BIOGRAPHER (DOV GOLDSTEIN), DID NOT PRESS FOR NAMES OR FOUR SPECIFIC INDICATIONS OF THE DAMAGE BEING DONE TO ISRAEL-U.S. RELATIONS. IT IS THE KIND OF WRITING OF WHICH MR. RABIN HAS BEEN COMPLAINING RECENTLY WHERE HAARETZ IS CONCERNED. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION, HE HAS EVEN SAID THAT HAARETZ IS OUT TO BRING HIM DOWN...WHAT IS INTERESTING ABOUT IT ALL, IS THE WAY HE IDENTIFIED THE GROUP THAT ALLEGEDLY WANTS TO SABOTAGE U.S.-ISRAEL RELATIONS WITH THE PEOPLE WHO ARE OUT TO GET HIM. TO HIM THAT IS THE SAME THING. LISTENING TO HIM, ONE CONCLUDES THAT WHOEVER CRITICIZES RABIN, DAMAGES ISRAEL-U.S. RELATIONS.

6. THE PLOT AND PLOTTERS, THOUGH, EXIST ONLY IN MR. RABIN'S IMAGINATION. EXCEPT FOR SOME MARGINAL EXTREMISTS, WHAT ISRAELI IN HIS SENSES WOULD WANT TO SABOTAGE RELATIONS WITH THE ONLY POWER THAT SUPPORTS ISRAEL? SOMETHING HAS EVIDENTLY GONE WRONG WITH MR. RABIN'S VOCABULARY WHEN HE MIXES UP "CRITICISM" AND "SABOTAGE."

7. IN THE MATTER OF RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. MR. RABIN HAD BETTER LOOK TO HIS OWN ACTIONS BEFORE ACCUSING OTHERS. I WOULD NOT LIKE TO TAKE KISSINGER'S WORD FOR IT THAT RABIN MISLED HIM ABOUT THE INTERIM AGREEMENT AND THAT THAT DID SERIOUS

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DAMAGE TO THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES; BUT THERE ARE ENOUGH OTHER INSTANCES OF "MISUNDERSTANDINGS" BETWEEN RABIN AND U.S. ADMINISTRATION HEADS. WHAT RABIN IS DOING NOW IN SPEAKING OF A GROUP OF SABOTEURS, IS TRYING TO SHIFT THE BLAME FOR THE DETERIORATION IN ISRAEL-U.S. RELATIONS TO OTHERS.

8. INSTEAD OF CHASING GHOSTS, IT IS TIME RABIN UNDERSTOOD THAT THERE ARE NO DIFFERENCES OF INTEREST BETWEEN HIMSELF AND THE PRESS AND THE PEOPLE HE HINTS ABOUT, WHERE ISRAEL'S WELFARE AND SECURITY ARE CONCERNED. AT MOST THERE ARE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION ABOUT THINGS THAT SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT BE DONE, AND ONE IS NOT NECESSARILY AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE AND OF ISRAEL-U.S. RELATIONS FOR NOT AGREEING TO THE PRIME MINISTERS' S EVERY SINGLE ACTION. END TEXT
TOON

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